

September 25th, 2015



Little Falls Dam Hearing Announced

Greetings!

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is planning to hold a hearing to give local officials and the public a progress report on the Little Falls Dam project. The informational hearing is at the **Hudson Town Hall** (980 County Rd. A) on **Tuesday, October 20th at 6:00 PM.**



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You may have noticed that we've received a lot of rain this summer. The frequent rain has put the DNR's drawdown plan behind schedule. To keep up with the project's timeline, the DNR will conduct a controlled breach of the dam on September 28th.

The dam and the lake it creates at Willow River State Park are an important part of our local economy, drawing thousands of local and interstate tourists to the area every year. We want to make sure that the project is done right, whether that means repair or replacement. That's why this spring I worked to increase funding for the projecting to \$8 million.

My office will continue to monitor the project's progress. You can find details about the project on the [DNR's website](#). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Dean

Expanding Care, Protecting Patients

Western Wisconsin has a well-documented shortage of licensed medical doctors. Our rural communities do not provide the same draw to physicians that metropolitan areas do. To address this problem, yesterday I voted with my colleagues to approve AB 253 which allows Wisconsin to join interstate agreements for medical licenses.

Streamlining the licensing process will **reduce burdensome administrative costs** to border hospitals, such as **Hudson Hospital** and **River Falls Area Hospital**. It will also assist with the use of telemedicine tech an exciting new way for doctors to provide diagnosis to rural areas. I'm proud to support this crucial piece of legislation that **protects patients** and **expands access to care**. The bipartisan bill was passed 95 to 1. The bill now heads to the State Senate.

Our Thoughts and Prayers

State Supreme Court Justice Patrick Crooks passed away in his chambers at the State Capitol on Monday. He was 77 years old. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family of this thoughtful and dedicated public servant.

